

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9711

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3581

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY FROM BROWN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH JUMBLATT'S DEPUTIES KHALAF AND ABOU-DIAB

EMB OFF HAD 3-HOUR CONVERSATION EVENING APRIL 21 WITH JUMBLATT'S TWO PRINCIPAL DEPUTIES, ABBAS KHALAF AND FAWZI ABOU-DIAB. WHOLE SERIES OF ITEMS CAME UP AND PRINCIPAL ONES WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEP-TELS. MAIN MESSAGE GOTTEN TO JUMBLATT WAS THAT OTHER SIDE SEEMS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT PERSON OF JUMBLATT RATHER THAN JUMBLATT'S PROGRAM. IN THE INTEREST OF RESTORING CALM TO THE COUNTRY, THEREFORE, IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR JUMBLATT TO AVOID STATEMENTS THAT ONLY WORSENEDED THE SITUATION. SOME SORT OF CONCILIATORY GESTURE ON JIMBLATT'S PART TO THE OTHER SIDE WOULD CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO CALMING THE SITUATION.
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